# POLLY PLEASANT.

THOSE who are willing to obtain
respect,
*Learning* and *Virtue* muſt their ſteps direct;
Their hearts ſhould find it happineſs to
pleaſe.
To feel another's wants and taſte his eaſe;
Then ſhall they live in happineſs com-
plete,
Prais'd by the good, and honored by
the great.
Thus will their conduct be by all approv'd,
Their friendſhip courted, and them-
ſelves belov'd.

THE

# CHILD'S OWN BOOK,

CONTAINING THE

# ALPHABET,

AND

# EASY LESSONS,

IN

# VERSE and PROSE;

WITH

## The HISTORY of

# POLLY PLEASANT

AND

# BETSEY THOUGHTLESS

---

LONDON:

Printed for the AUTHOR, who has ordered your old Friend Mr. MARSHALL, at No. 4, in *Aldermary Church Yard*, and all the *Booksellers*, both in *Town* and *Country*, to make a Present of it to Good Girls and Boys, they paying for the Binding, which is only ONE PENNY.

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| ak | ek | ik | ok | uk | ax | ex | ix | ox | ux |
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## *Eaſy* Leſſons *in Monoſyllables.*

WHEN you are at home mind what your friends ſay, and do as they bid you.

For in all that is wiſe and right you are bound to do as they would have you.

A good child loves his book, and will do as he is bid; but he who loves play more than his book is a bad boy.

By the care you take now to know and learn, you will gain fame and wealth when you grow up.

We muſt love thoſe who hate us, as well as thoſe who love us.

*LEARN-*

# LEARNING.

AN industrious and virtuous education of children is a much better inheritance for them than a great estate? For, according to the proverb.

"*'Tis learning makes the man.*"

The

## *The* ALPHABET *in* VERSE.

A DORE your Maker every day.
B esure your parents to obey.
C ontented be with what you have.
D o nought without your master's leave.
E nvy not the gay in dress.
F ear the Lord and he'll you bless.
G ive alms to those who are in need.
H ate every wicked naughty deed.
I n all your words regard the truth.
K eep quite away from lying youth.
L et all your words and acts agree.
M anners observe with modesty.
N eglect not what you ought to do.
O bliging be to all you know.
P atient be, mind all you're taught.
Q uash every vain unruly thought.
R etain in mind all good you hear.
S erve the Lord your God with fear.
T ake not a bribe, nor vice regard,
V irtue will bring its own reward.
W ail not at every fancy'd loss.
X you may see is like a cross.
Y our heart improve as well as mind.
Z eal without knowledge is but blind.

*JUSTICE.*

# *JUSTICE.*

FIDELITY and truth are the foundation of Juſtice.

If your means ſuit not with your ends, purſue thoſe ends that ſuit with your means: For "*Honeſty is the beſt* "*Policy.*"

A SCRIP-

## A SCRIPTURE CATECHISM.

Q. WHO was the first Man?

A. *Adam*, who for disobeying God's command, was driven out of *Paradise*, and sent to till the ground from whence he was taken.

Q. Who was the first Woman?

A. *Eve*, the mother of all living.

Q. Who killed his brother *Abel?*

A. *Cain*, because God accepted his brother's sacrifice, but rejected his.

Q. Who did God save the world was destroyed?

A. *Noah* and all his family, together with male and female of every living creature, as God at first created them, by which means the earth has been replenished, as it is at this Day: For this deliverance he offered a sacrifice

to God who being pleaſed therewith promiſed never to drown the world again.

Q. Who diſcovered his father's nakedneſs?

A. *Noah*'s ſon *Ham*, when *Shem* and *Japhet* took a garment, went backwards and covered it; for which the two latter were bleſſed; but the former curſed by his father.

Q. Who was the father of the faithful?

A. *Abraham*, in believing God, and leaving his country and kindred, and alſo in offering up his only ſon *Iſaac* at God's command.

Q. Whom did God make his covenant with?

A. *Abraham*, *Iſaac*, and *Jacob*.

Q. Who ſold his birth-right?

A. *Eſau* to his brother *Jacob*, for a meſs of pottage.

Q. Who wreſtled with an Angel?

A. *Jacob*, in which the angel touched the hollow of his thigh and it ſhrunk, wherefore after that time his name was called *Iſrael*.

Q. Who was the meekeſt man?

A. *Moſes*, in bearing the inſults of the *Egyptians*, and the reproaches of the children of *Iſrael*, forty years in the wilderneſs.

Q. Who was the ſtrongeſt Man?

A *Sampſon*, who with the jaw bone of an aſs ſlew a thouſand men: carried away the gates of *Gaza*, and pulled down their temple.

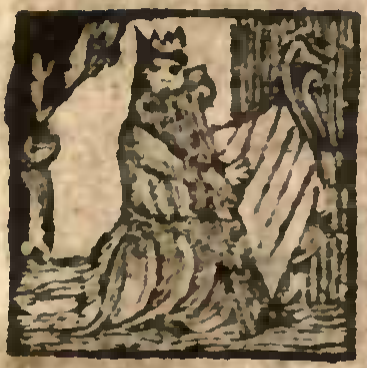
Q. Who was the firſt King of *Iſrael*?

A. *Saul*.

Q. Who ſlew the giant *Goliah*?

A. *David*.

Q. Who



Q. Who was called the man after God's own heart?

A. *David*, who on the harp, psaltry, organ, and ten stringed instruments was continually praising God.

Q. Who did God send to rebuke him?

A. *Nathan* the Prophet.

Q. For what?

A. For the murder of *Uriah*, and adultery with his wife.

Q. Who was three nights and three days in the whale's belly?

A. The prophet *Jonah*.

Q. Who was crucified on *Mount Calvary*?

A. Our Lord and Saviour *Jesus Christ*, the eternal Son of God, on a cross, between two thieves; although he knew no sin, neither was any guile found in his mouth.

Q. Who

Q. Who betrayed him with a kiſs, and afterwards went and hanged himſelf?

A. *Judas*, one of the twelve Apoſtles.

Q. For how much did he betray him?

A. Forty pieces of ſilver.

Q. Who denied his Lord and Maſter?

A. *Peter*, who by a look from *Chriſt*, and the crowing of the cock, ſaw the wickedneſs he had been guilty of, went out, and wept bitterly.

Q. Who was the firſt Martyr for the chriſtian faith?

A. St. *Stephen*, who prayed for his adverſaries even whilſt they were in the moſt inhuman act of his Maſſacre.

St. MAT-

# St. MATTHEW.

HE was preferred to an honorable poſt by the *Romans*, which was to collect the taxes of the *Jews* that traded upon the lake. Our Saviour coming that way, called him by his ſpirit, and *Matthew* left all and followed him. He wrote the goſpel that bears his name; and at laſt was killed by being run through the body with an halbert.

St.

## St. MARK.

CAME of *Jewish* parents, and was one of the seventy disciples. The *Jews* that were brought over to *Christ* at *Rome*, induced him to write his gospel history. His zeal to convert souls made him run through the barbarous regions of *Africk*, till at last as he was praying they broke in upon him, and dragged his naked body over the flint stones, till he gave up the ghost.

# St. LUKE.

THE place of St. *Luke*'s birth was at *Antioch*. He was converted by St. *Paul*'s preaching, and was a conſtant traveller with him. He writ his goſpel about the fifty-ſixth year, and was alſo author of the book entitled *The acts of the Apoſtles*. It was believed by moſt good authors, that the common people took him preaching the goſpel in *Greece*, and there, with unrelenting hearts, hung him on an olive-tree.

## St. JOHN.

WAS both an apoſtle and evangeliſt. He travelled to *Aſia*, and founded the ſeven churches there, and from thence went into *Parthia*, preaching the goſpel many years. At laſt he was ſent bound from *Aſia* to *Rome*, and there put in a chaldron of ſcalding oil, but was preſerved unhurt. He wrote his goſpel when he was an hundred years old. As to his death authors are uncertain.

*The*

# FABLES.

## *The* DOG *and the* SHADOW.

A DOG that was an errant thief,
Had ſtole it ſeems, a piece of beef;
And o'er a river run for fear
Juſtice ſhould fall upon his rear:
The figure of this beef did ſeem
So lively painted in the ſtream,
That he for a freſh booty hop'd,
And greedy at the ſhadow chop'd:
Thus he let go the prize he had,
Which vexed him ſo that he run mad.

Thoſe who are gaping after more,
Looſe often what they had before.

## *The* CAT *and the* MICE.

A Politick Cat that made it her trade
Pick'd many a mouſe up in ſly ambuſcade:
The nation was griev'd that ſo many brave mice
Should thus looſe their lives and eſtates in a trice:
They call a grave council, whoſe wit ſhould determine
Some means for the beſt preſervation of vermin.
Says one of the council, All things will be well,

If round the Cat's neck we could tie
but a bell;
Then let the Cat come by night or by
day,
The bell will give warning to ſcamper
away:
That's true, ſaid another, but where
ſhall be found
A Mouſe that will venture to tie the bell
round?
'Tis eaſy to frame a good bold reſo-
lution;
But hard is the taſk that concerns execu-
tion,
For where life and fortune muſt lie as
a ſtake,
No wiſe man a deſperate council will
take.

## *The* HEN *and the* FOX.

A Fox in a ſnare, and in danger of life
Begg'd hard of a Hen to procure him a knife:
The Hen made as if ſhe'd the favor have done him,
But calling her maſter, ſhe brought him upon him;
Then ſaid, It was what he deſerv'd all along,
For killing her huſband, and eating her young.

That

That perſon a great deal of weakneſs
does ſhew,
Who needs will provoke, and then truſt
to a foe.

---

## *The* SWALLOW *and the* HEN.

ON ſerpent's eggs a Hen was ſate,
When thus a ſwallow mourn'd her
fate;
Poor hapleſs fooliſh bird, ſaid ſhe,
Thoſe whom thy heat ſhall cauſe to be,
Ere three days they enjoy their breath,
To thee ſhall be the cauſe of death.
Whoe'er protects th' ungrateful man,
His ruin in that act began. *The*

# *The* HISTORY *of* *POLLY PLEASANT* AND *BETSEY THOUGHTLESS.*

MISS *Polly Pleasant* had the misfortune to lose both her papa and mamma when she was very young; but she had still, however, the blessing of an excellent aunt, her name was *Vincent*; who had a grand-daughter, Miss *Betsey Thoughtless*. These young ladies were at the death of their parents, placed under the guardianship of Mrs. *Vincent*, a very good-natured woman; yet the education of these two young ladies, which some would have thought a pleasure, would have been to her a fatigue; she therefore sent them to Mrs. *Readwell*, who kept a boarding-school, to receive an education suitable to their fortunes.

When

When they had been at the school near three months. Mrs. *Vincent* came to see them. This Mrs. *Read-well* was apprized of by a servant. Accordingly she called the young ladies, and went with them to Mrs. *Vincent*, who though very fond of them, did not fail, after kissing them, to

enquire of the governess if they were good girls, and minded their books? to which their governess replied, she had no great fault to find, but if she did not confess that Miss *Polly*, though the youngest, was the best scholar, she should not do that young lady justice.

When

After Mrs. *Vincent* had been there a little time, she gave each of them half a crown, and asked the governess to let them go into the town to lay it out.

They had not walked many yards from the garden gate, before they saw a poor woman, whose face seemed very full of

dejection, with two small children. Bless me! says Miss *Betsey*, I wonder what such creatures do in the streets! somebody should take them up, and send them to the house of correction. O fie! said *Polly*, how can you talk at this rate, without knowing by what means she is

reduced

reduced to such poverty? so saying, she went to the poor woman, and asked her in a very pretty manner what was the matter with her, and how she came to be so distressed! Alas! said the poor woman, I was the wife of a gardener, whom it pleased God to afflict with a long and severe illness; and though we lived very comfortably when he was well, yet being so long sick, and having nothing to depend on but his work, I was forced to sell every thing we were possessed of, to maintain us during his illness; when about six o'clock yesterday morning he died, and I, for the first time, am necessitated to come out, and try if by charity I can get as much as will buy him a coffin, and me a bit of bread to support my children. Here the poor creature could say no more for tears, and *Polly* could not help accompanying her. Come, says *Betsey*, come along; what signifies minding what she says about her husband, and nobody knows what! Come along with me, only see what fine fruit that man has yonder!

yonder! are you ſtupid? well, I will ſtay no longer, but go and buy ſome before they are all gone. You may do as you pleaſe, ſaid *Polly*, and lay out your money as you think proper; but I ſhall give this poor woman my half crown, and if I can perſuade you, you ſhould give her your's; You will find it a hard taſk, ſaid the proud Miſs *Betſey*, and away ſhe ran acroſs the ſtreet, to

buy ſome of the fruit, and ſpend all her money. By that time ſhe came back half the fruit was eat, when holding the remainder in her hand, ſhe cried,

Now,

Now, which is the best off? your money is gone, and you have got nothing for it, see what fine fruit I have got. Miss *Polly* made no answer, but walked back pensively to the school; when they came there, the ladies had just sat down to tea.

Mrs. *Vincent* observing how sorrowful *Polly* looked, asked what was the matter? O! says *Betsey*, she has given her money away to a dirty beggar, and now she has seen what fine fruit I had, I suppose she is sorry she did not buy some.

Indeed, aunt, said *Polly*, that is not the case; I am only sorry to think of *Betsey*'s hard heart and self-love, which so far prevailed over her reason, as to prevent her from contributing to the necessities of a fellow-creature when in the greatest distress.

Both the ladies commended *Polly* for what she had done; but were so angry with *Betsey*, that they made her stand in one corner of the room, sufficiently mortified, at seeing *Polly* sit at tea caressed

and praised by her grandmamma and the

governess, whilst she stood crying, till *Polly*, who was very fond of her, begged her aunt to forgive her, and let her come to the table.

Tea being over, Mrs. *Vincent* gave each of them half a crown more, and after kissing them both departed, leaving *Betsey* sensible of her error, with a resolution to amend, and *Polly* well satisfied with what she had done.

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